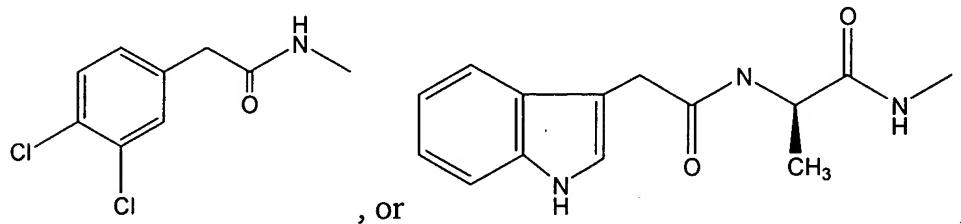


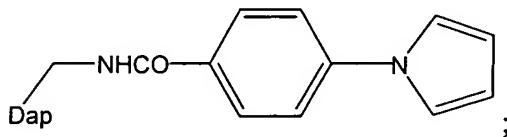
### Claim Amendments

Please enter the following amendments, which include cancellation of claims 2-6, 10-18, 23-24, 26-27, 29, 31-54, 56-62, 65-70, 72-75, 77, 78, and 81-91, amendment of claims 8, 9, 25, 28, 63 and 76 and addition of new claims 92 and 93.

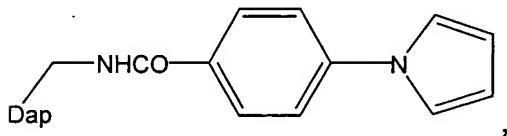
1 (original): An inhibitor of a protein kinase C $\alpha$  (PKC $\alpha$ ), the inhibitor comprising A-Ala-Arg-Arg-X-B-Hyd-C-D-, where A = AcHN-,



X=any amino acid or amino acid mimetic; B=Ala or a diaminopropionic acid (Dap) derivative having the formula



Hyd=Phe, Leu or Ile; C=Arg or Lys; and D=Ala or a Dap derivative having the formula

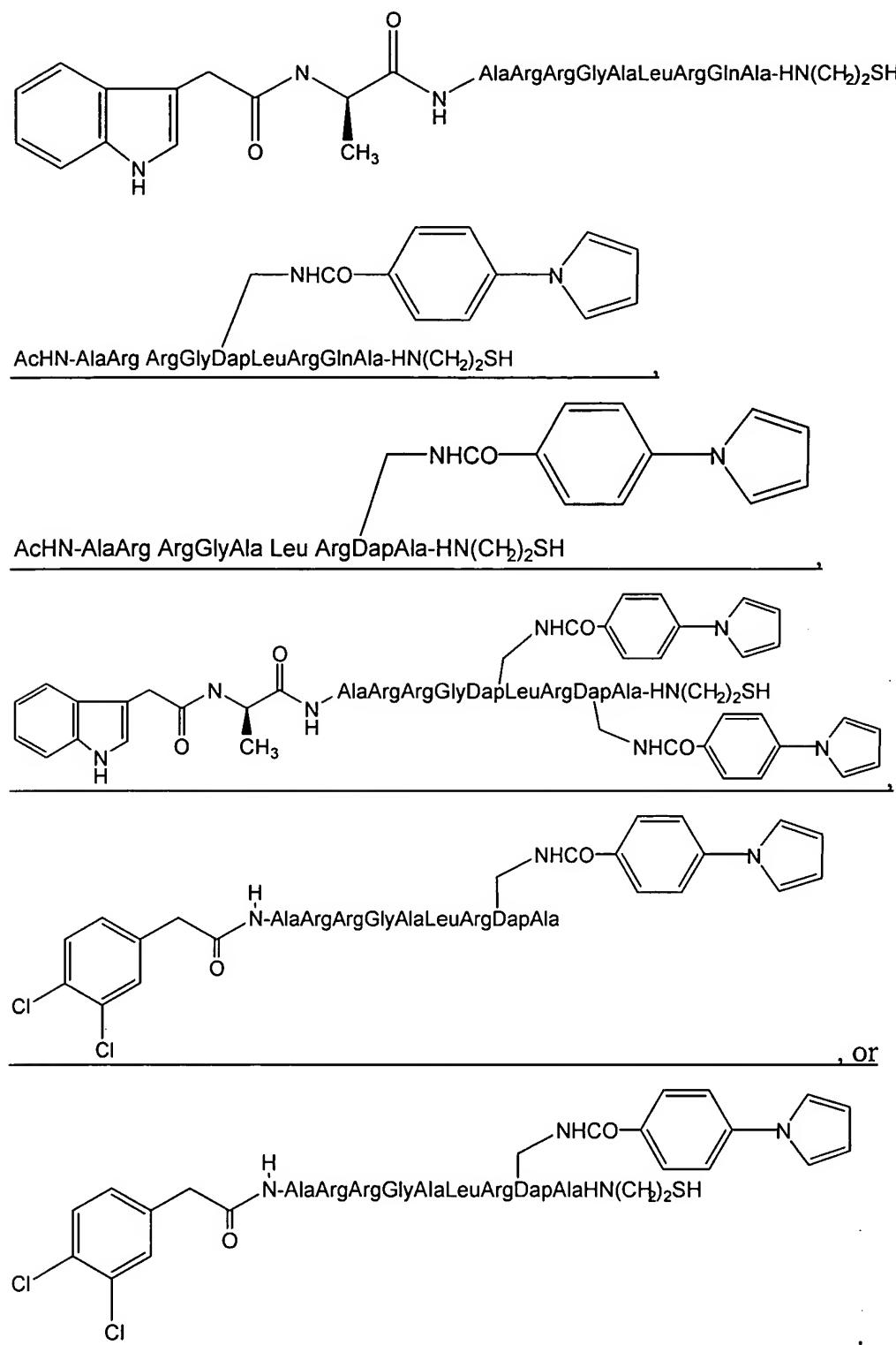


wherein any of the amino acids can alternatively be an analogous amino acid mimetic.

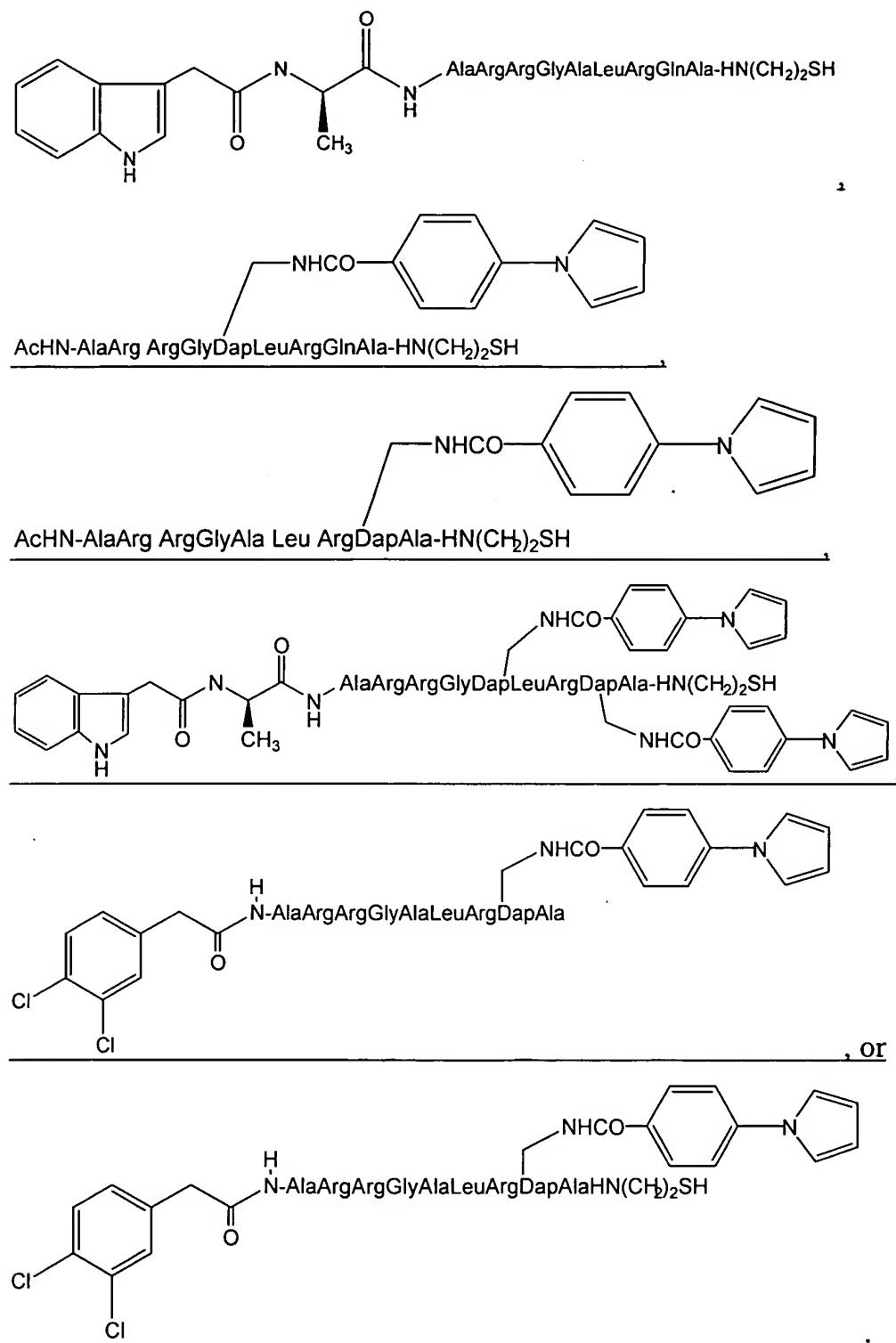
2-6 (canceled)

7 (original): The inhibitor of claim 1, wherein the PKC $\alpha$  is a human PKC $\alpha$ .

8 (currently amended): The inhibitor of claim 1, comprising

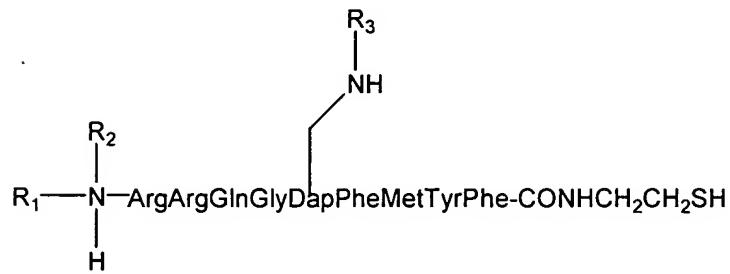


9 (currently amended): The inhibitor of claim 1, consisting of



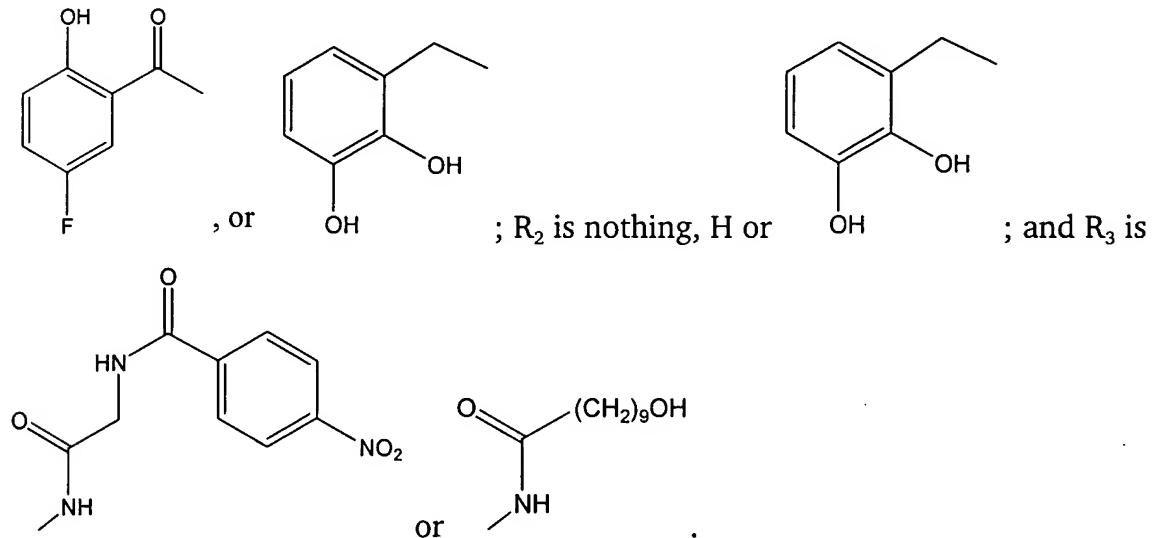
10 - 18 (canceled)

19 (original): An inhibitor of a protein kinase C (PKC), the inhibitor comprising



wherein  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are independently H, Ac, a carboxylic acid from FIG. 4, or an aldehyde from FIG. 5, and  $\text{R}_2$  is H, a carboxylic acid from FIG. 4, an aldehyde from FIG. 5, or H nothing.

20 (original): The inhibitor of claim 19, wherein  $\text{R}_1$  is Ac, H,

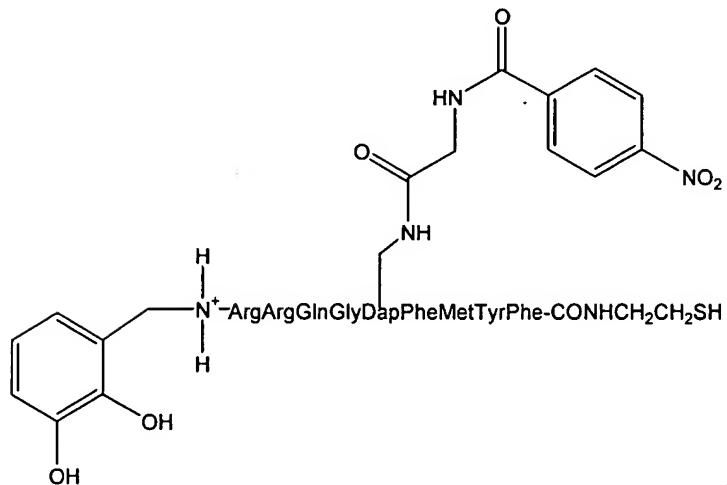


21 (original): The inhibitor of claim 19, comprising Compound B, Compound C, Compound D, Compound E, Compound F, or Compound G of FIG. 7.

22 (original): The inhibitor of claim 19, wherein the inhibitor is specific for a PKC $\beta$ I, a PKC $\delta$ , and/or a PKC $\zeta$ .

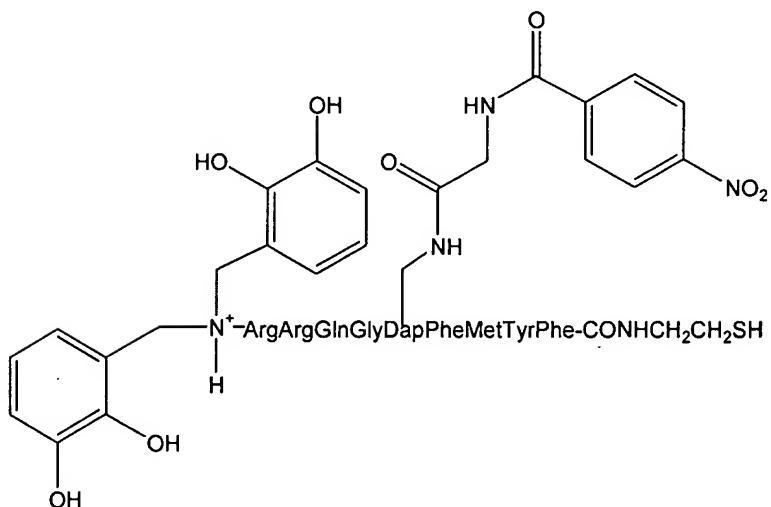
23-24 (canceled)

25 (currently amended): The inhibitor of claim 19 24, the inhibitor consisting of



26-27 (canceled)

28 (currently amended): The inhibitor of claim 19 26, consisting of



29 (canceled)

30 (original): A combinatorial library useful for identifying an inhibitor of a protein kinase, the combinatorial library comprising a plurality of compounds, each compound comprising

a consensus sequence for a substrate of the protein kinase, the consensus sequence comprising at least five amino acids or mimetics, wherein at least one amino acid or mimetic is not essential to substrate binding, and wherein an amino acid or mimetic not subject to phosphorylation substitutes a canonical Ser or Thr target residue in the consensus sequence; and

a chemical moiety covalently bound to the compound at

the at least one non-essential amino acid or mimetic in the consensus sequence and/or

the amino acid or mimetic not subject to phosphorylation substituting the canonical Ser or Thr target residue;

wherein each compound comprises a different chemical moiety.

31-54 (canceled)

55 (original): A method of identifying an inhibitor of a protein kinase, the method comprising

creating the combinatorial library of claim 30 for the protein kinase,

screening the compounds in the combinatorial library for inhibitory activity of the protein kinase, and

identifying any compounds in the combinatorial library that are inhibitors of the protein kinase.

56-62 (canceled)

63 (currently amended): A method of treating a deleterious condition in a mammal, where the condition is dependent on a protein kinase C (PKC) for induction or

severity, the method comprising ~~contacting the mammal with the composition of claim 29 administering the inhibitor of claim 1 to the mammal in a manner sufficient to treat the deleterious condition.~~

64 (currently amended): The method of claim 63, wherein the PKC is a PKC $\alpha$ , a PKC $\delta$  or a PKC $\zeta$ .

65-70 (canceled)

71 (original): The method of claim 63, wherein the deleterious condition is selected from the group consisting of a cancer, a cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, agammaglobulinaemia, reperfusion injury, Alzheimer's disease, a neurological or neurodegenerative disease, chemotherapy-induced alopecia, arthritis, an autoimmune disease, an inflammatory disease, allergies, asthma and viral virulence.

72-75 (canceled)

76 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting a protein kinase, the method comprising contacting the protein kinase with ~~an~~ the inhibitor of the protein kinase C (PKC) of any one of claims 1-28 claim 1.

77-78 (canceled)

79 (original): The method of claim 78, wherein the cell is in a living mammal.

80 (original): The method of claim 79, wherein the living mammal is a human.

81-91 (canceled)

92 (new): A method of treating a deleterious condition in a mammal, where the condition is dependent on a protein kinase C (PKC) for induction or severity, the method comprising administering the inhibitor of claim 19 to the mammal in a manner sufficient to treat the deleterious condition.

93 (new): A method of inhibiting a protein kinase, the method comprising contacting the protein kinase with the inhibitor of claim 19.